

1 **STATE OF GEORGIA**
2 **COUNTY OF FULTON**
3 **CITY OF SOUTH FULTON**

RESOLUTION No. 2019-059

4
5 **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA, ENCOURAGING**
6 **THE DISCONTINUATION OF OUTDATED AND ANTIQUATED GENDER-SPECIFIC**
7 **PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL REFERENCES AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL**
8 **PURPOSES**

9
10 **(Sponsored by Councilperson Gumbs)**

11
12 **WHEREAS**, the City of South Fulton ("City") is a municipal corporation duly
13 organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia;

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15 **WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council ("City Council") is the duly elected governing
16 authority of the City;

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18 **WHEREAS**, the City promotes equal opportunity employment;

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20 **WHEREAS**, the use of gendered language in reference to public safety personnel
21 is antiquated and inaccurate that promotes an outdated worldview that may suggest to
22 some that the professions of law enforcement and firefighting are available exclusively;
23 to men or that there is something unusual about the participation of women;

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25 **WHEREAS**, the use of terms such as "firemen", "policemen", and other male
26 pronouns in state law denies and minimalizes the legacy of those trailblazing female
27 police officers and firefighters;

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29 **WHEREAS**, under the City's current public safety administration, each department
30 has placed a priority upon increasing diversity;

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32 **WHEREAS**, the City recognizes the importance of terms and titles and has for
33 decades used the term "firemen" or "policemen" in official verbal and written
34 communications. It is appropriate that the same level of respect and acknowledgment be
35 given in the laws that govern the community that female firefighters and police officers
36 risk their lives to protect;

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38 **WHEREAS**, by stamping out antiquated gender-specific language, professions
39 that were once seen as nontraditional for women are more likely to appeal to all people,
40 regardless of gender; and

41
42 **WHEREAS**, this Resolution will benefit the health and general welfare of the City,
43 its citizens and general public.

44 **THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA, HEREBY**
45 **RESOLVES** as follows:

Section 1: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby declares its preference for the City's public safety departments to limit the use of gender-specific language, as appropriate.

Section 2. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that: (a) All sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Resolution are or were, upon their enactment, believed by the City Council to be fully valid, enforceable and constitutional.

(b) To the greatest extent allowed by law, each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution. No section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Resolution.

(c) In the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Resolution shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of the City Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of the Resolution.

Section 3. All Resolutions and parts of Resolutions in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed.

Section 4. The effective date of this Resolution shall be the date of adoption unless provided otherwise by the City Charter or state and/or federal law.

The foregoing RESOLUTION No. 2019-059, adopted on December 10, 2019 was offered by Councilmember Gumbs, who moved its approval. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rowell, and being put to a vote, the result was as follows:

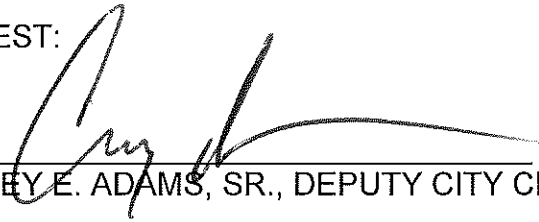
	AYE	NAY
William "Bill" Edwards, Mayor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mark Baker, Mayor Pro Tem	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Catherine Foster Rowell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carmalitha Lizandra Gumbs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Helen Zenobia Willis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gertrude Naeema Gilyard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rosie Jackson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
khalid kamau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

131 THIS RESOLUTION adopted this 10th day of December 2019.


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133 CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GEORGIA

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137 _____
138 WILLIAM "BILL" EDWARDS, MAYOR

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141 ATTEST:

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143 
144 _____
145 COREY E. ADAMS, SR., DEPUTY CITY CLERK

146
147 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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149 
150 _____
151 EMILIA C. WALKER, CITY ATTORNEY

